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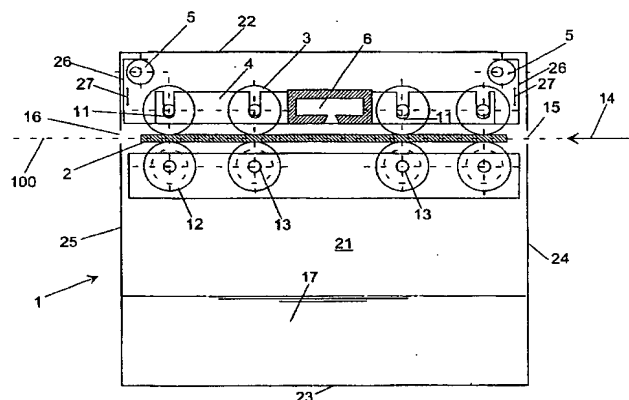
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(54) Title: CONVEYORIZED HORIZONTAL PROCESSING LINE AND METHOD OF WET-PROCESSING A WORKPIECE



(57) Abstract: The problem confronting manufacturers of printed circuit boards (2) of differing thickness is that, as the current density increases and the diameter of the holes decreases, the treatment effect on various locations on the outer side of the boards and inside the holes becomes more irregular. To resolve this problem, a conveyorized horizontal processing line and a method of wet-processing printed circuit boards (2) is described. To manufacture the printed circuit boards (2), data about the thickness of the workpiece (2) are acquired before it enters the conveyorized processing line and are stored in a data memory, the workpiece (2) is conveyed through the conveyorized processing line and a structural component, which is provided with at least one transport member (3) for the workpiece (2) and with at least one processing facility (6) and which is disposed above the conveying path (100) in the conveyorized processing line, is adjusted in such a manner that the structural component is raised or lowered and/or pivoted relative to the conveying path as a function of the thickness of the respective one of the workpieces passing said structural component.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 197 17 511 A (ATOTECH DEUTSCHLAND GMBH) 29 October 1998 (1998-10-29) column 1, line 5 - column 3, line 18; claims 1-10; figures 1,2 ---	1-22
A	US 6 261 425 B1 (HUANG PIN CHUN ET AL) 17 July 2001 (2001-07-17) claim 1; figures 1,7-7C ---	1-22
A	EP 0 478 521 A (ILVA SPA) 1 April 1992 (1992-04-01) abstract; claim 1; figure 1 ---	1-22
A	US 6 045 874 A (HIMES RICKY A) 4 April 2000 (2000-04-04) column 5, line 23 - line 32 -----	1-22

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Information on patent family members

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